

448563/0217



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: **Kazuhiro Hashii, et al.**

Art Unit: **2861**

Application No.: **10/649,806**

Examiner: **Not Yet Known**

Filed: **August 26, 2003**

For: **INK CARTRIDGE AND RECORDING APPARATUS**

Date: **March 22, 2004**

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.102

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified application be made Special and advanced out of turn for Examination.

This Petition is submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.102 and M.P.E.P. § 708.02(VIII) ("SPECIAL EXAMINING PROCEDURE FOR CERTAIN NEW APPLICATIONS - ACCELERATED EXAMINATION").

Applicants submit the following items in accordance with the provisions of M.P.E.P. § 708.02(VIII):

- This Petition, which includes below an authorization to charge the required fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(h) to the undersigned's deposit account;
- The accompanying Statement Regarding Pre-Examination Search;
- One copy each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims; and

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dated March 22, 2004

- A detailed discussion of the references, which discussion is part of the Statement Regarding Pre-Examination Search, and which discussion points out, with the particularity required by 37 CFR 1.111 (b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references.

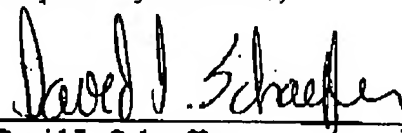
Also submitted herewith are (1) an Information Disclosure Statement citing the references discussed in the Statement Regarding Pre-Examination Search and (2) a Preliminary Amendment.

In accordance with M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Applicants hereby state that they consider the pending claims to be directed to a single invention - the aforementioned Preliminary Amendment cancels claims which it could be argued pertain to a different invention. The remaining claims are consistent with the scope of the pre-examination search.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the \$130.00 fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(h) for the filing of this Petition, as well as any other fee now or hereafter due, to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

Applicants respectfully submit that this Petition should be granted. Prompt and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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